Questions asked by Prospective Offerors

1. Q: My company is a manufacturer of laboratory equipment such as biosafety cabinets, incubators, and freezers. I am trying to find out how to my companies products approved for the above project: specifically biological safety cabinets. Is there a Substitution Request procedure? If so, who is the request submitted to? Who is responsible for buying the equipment?

   A: Requests must be submitted to the General Contractor. Substitutions are requested by the General Contractor for consideration after award. For VA provided equipment, a separate procurement process is handled by the VA Palo Alto Healthcare System.

2. Q: My question pertains to the General Requirements Section 01 91 00 (General Commissioning Requirements). Will the Commissioning portion be performed through a 3rd party under a different solicitation number or included under this Solicitation?

   A. A Commissioning Agent has been hired by the VA specifically for this project.

3. Q: Does the Buy American Act on this project apply to any laboratory equipment? The slide presentation from the Pre-Bid meeting stated it was for "construction materials".....is lab equipment considered lab materials?

   A: Yes

4. Q: Another slide in the presentation also mentioned open bid – no procurement restrictions. Please advise

   A: This is an Unrestricted Procurement. Therefore; large and small business may submit a proposal.

5. Q: Will the Owner be considered as the generator of all pre-existing hazardous materials and sign all transportation manifests as such?

   A: Correct.

6. Q: Are there any known historic/tribal preservation elements on the campus?

   A: Yes.

7. Q: Please confirm that all the lead and asbestos reports have been performed and are complete?

   A: No known lead or asbestos material removal is part of this project.

8. Q: Per the Gyp Board specification section, do the door openings have to be yoked?

   A: Yoking is required. Spec section will be revised.

9. Q: In Part III - Proposal Requirement section of the solicitation, Section E indicates that and electronic version of Volume II (Cost Proposal) shall be delivered to the Contracting Officer. It also indicates that the electronic version of Volume II is due by the date and time shown on the SF-1442. Please confirm that the electronic version of the Volume II documents that are to be provided can include a blank CLIN schedule. If an electronic version of the completed CLIN schedule is required, please consider requiring this to be due 1 hour after the hard copies are submitted.

   A: YES, Hardcopies and electronic copy of the proposal must be complete and are due as stated in the SF-1442. A blank CLIN schedule will be deemed non-responsive and your proposal will NOT be evaluated.

10. Q: Is this project OSHA or CalOSHA? Specification 01526 References OSHA in 1.1H and Cal/OSHA in 1.1K-1?

    A: Both Fed OSHA and Cal OSHA shall be complied with for this project.

11. Q: Is parking offsite required for all subcontractors? Will the VA provide parking lots and bussing?

    A: The VA will not provide parking or shuttles for the General Contractor and its Subcontractors. Contractor and Sub-contractor personnel are not authorized to park in VA parking spaces.

12. Q: Please specify the location of the remote parking area that can be used by subcontractors.

    A: There is no designated remote parking area for sub-contractors.

13. Q: If a catastrophic event occurs before the VA accepts the building, who is responsible to replace the project?

    A: According to FAR 52.236-7, the contractor is responsible for all work performed until completion and acceptance by the Government.

14. Q: Please provide a date when the Parking Structure will be complete.

    A: The contract completion date is February 2017.

15. Q: What are the pour size limits- spec calls for 80x80 max, is this accurate?

    A: Comply with specification requirements and SOG construction joint detail.

16. Q: Are the Construction Documents fully coordinated?

    A: Exact system pathways and products are function of systems and products awarded and as such need to be coordinated by the GC.

17. Q: There are requirements for an archaeologist to be part of the team for the Contractor. Please define the areas that we will encounter cultural resources via a plan page.

    A: The entire project site has the potential for encountering cultural resources.

18. Q: Is this area for the project free of all existing or previously abandoned utilities?

    A: No. The area is currently an active construction site. Refer to sheet CD1.2.1 for utilities to be removed as a part of this contract as well as utilities assumed to be removed as a part of previous or ongoing construction.

19. Q: Please verify that all of the equipment has been coordinated. The contractor is just installing provisions as designed and coordinated by others.

    A: As of today, all lab equipment has been coordinated based on the CD2 package.

20. Q: Control joints – no plan has been provided Are these to be determined by the contractor?

    A: Refer to typical details 20/S1.1.1 and 24/S1.1.2 for control joint layout requirements.

21. Q: Hospital Stops – are the door frames to have terminated stops?

    A: Provide (Hospital Stops) Terminated Stops as required on Door Schedule.

22. Q: Is PV allowed for Waste and Vent piping?

    A: No. Refer to specification section 221300, paragraph 2.1 for approved materials.

23. Q: Are sleeves required to extend 1” above the deck for all deck penetrations?

A: Spec Sections 220511 and 230511 both require sleeves in concrete floors 1" above slab.

24. Q: Is conduit allowed in the slab on metal deck?

    A: No. Per Specification section 26 05 33, installation of conduit in concrete on metal deck or suspended concrete slabs is prohibited.

25. Q: Is branch wiring exceeding 75 ft required to be #10?

    A: No such general requirement exists. Provide upsized homeruns as indicated on drawings.

26. Q: Can the CLIN be exercised after the bid? If so, please provide a timeline which CLIN can be accepted after the bid.

    A: No

27. Q: Please publish the "Rules of the Station".

    A: See attached.

28. Q: Does each person on the contractor staff need a tririga license? Can you provide licensing costs?

    A: It is up to the Contractor how many Tririga licenses it will obtain. It is recommended that the Contractor obtain as many licenses it needs to process RFI's and submittals. Sharing of licenses between individuals is not allowed by Tririga. Contact Tririga for licensing costs.

29. Q: Please provide a detailed cost schedule for all sole sources subcontractors and vendors, so that all bidders can use the same sole sourced costs and not be disadvantaged by the sole sourced process.

    A: Contractors to contact sole source subcontractors and vendors.

30. Q: Mechanical and Electrical Coordinator – spec 013100 requires a licensed PE for M and E coordination to be on the staff of the Contractor. Please confirm that this coordinator can be employed by the mechanical and electrical subcontractors for the project and does not need to be a direct employee of the Contractor.

    A: The Contractor shall provide a Mechanical and Electrical Coordinator for the entire project from beginning to end and act as the coordinator for the project.

Separate coordinators from the mechanical and electrical subs do not meet this requirement.

31. Q: Energy Conservation Officer – spec 013100 requires an Energy Conservation Officer to be on the staff of the Contractor. Please confirm this is correct.

    A: An Energy Conservation Officer is required per the specification.

32. Q: Waste Management Coordinator – spec 013100 requires a Waste Management Coordinator to be on the staff of the Contractor. Please confirm this is correct.

    A: A Waste Management Coordinator is required per the specification.

33. Q: The submittal register and schedule is stated as due within 15 days of the NTP per 013323. The baseline schedule is not due until 45 days of NTP per the NAS spec. Which is correct? How can there be 2 schedules? One will not be approved as the Day one until the VA has reviewed, per the NAS. This is conflicting and will create confusion for the project.

    A: See specification section 01 33 23 revision in Amendment #2.

34. Q: Will the mock-ups installed in 014339.13-1 require demolition and disposal? The spec is not clear.

    A: Demolition and disposal of the mock up by the Contractor is required.

35. Q: Per specification section 010000 paragraph1.2.k, there are to be 3 separate unit prices provided for Class I, Class 2 and Class 3 contaminated soils. CLIN 0003 only contains a single line to identify a unit price. Which unit price is required to be entered on this line? Please advise or adjust the CLIN schedule accordingly.

    A: See revision in Amendment #2.

36. Q: The CLIN schedule included with the solicitation indicates CLIN 0001-0016. The descriptions of the CLINS included in the specification section 010000 indicates CLIN 001-012 with CLIN 001 having a 001A, 001B and 001C. Please coordinate CLIN numbering between the two documents and update the solicitation schedule as required.

    A: See revision in Amendment #2

37. Q: The description for CLIN 0007 (Deductive Alternate 3) appears to be missing a portion of the description as there are no rooms listed. Please provide noted rooms where the casework and tops are to be deleted.

    A: CLIN 007 is Deductive Alternate 6, not 3. Deductive Alternate 3 is under CLIN 004. See QL0.1.1-QL0.4.6 for description of Deductive Alternate.

38. Q: Specification section 024100 references sections 028211 Traditional Asbestos Abatement and 028333.13 Lead-Based Paint removal and Disposal. These sections are not included with the project documents. Please provide the missing sections.

    A: Delete references at 024100.1.2.E, F, and I.

39. Q: CLIN 0002 Physical Security indicates to provide a "separate cost for portion of the building systems and materials designated on the drawings and/or in the specifications to provide physical for the building structure and systems." Please clarify what specific items are to be included in this breakout price so that the costs can be allocated properly.

    A: See Mission Critical items listed on drawing G10.2.1

40. Q: Section 4.29b of the solicitation calls for the NAS to be submitted in 90 days. NAS spec references 45 days. Please confirm that for a project of this complexity, 90 days will be used.

    A: Response will be in Amendment #3

41. Q: Please confirm that the project not tax exempt.

    A: Not tax exempt

42. Q: Please confirm that each subcontractor is required to hire their own private utility locates for each activity. No public utility will locate on the VA Campus.

    A: Confirmed

43. Q: Spec 013526 Section 1.12-1 Final Cleanup - calls for all new air ducts to be cleaned prior to the final inspection. Please confirm that this applies to renovation work only, and is not applicable to this project.

    A: Seal ducts at open ends prior to installation to prevent contamination. Cleaning is not required unless the protection procedures are not followed

44. Q: Are there any requirements for the VA onsite offices – water, utilities, office supplies, etc? Please specify.

A: See revised General Requirements specification in Amendment #2.

45. Q: Is Risk Analysis Consultant required?

A: See specification section 01 32 16.13.

46. Q: Are General Conditions Costs allowed on Change Orders?

A: See VAAR 852.236-88 Changes – Supplement.

47. Q: The concrete specification section 3.4 mentions using a Moisture Vapor Emission Sealer. Spec. 072613.13 calls for a shot blast and epoxy based vapor retarder. Please verify that by following concrete spec section 3.4 alone, the requirements of the contract will be fulfilled, or if section 072613.13 must be followed. Please amend the specifications to be in concert with the decision.

A: Section 072613.13 must be followed

48. Q: Specifications section 092900 indicates that all layers of gypsum board are to extend from floor to underside of structure for corridor partitions. Sheet AE2.1.3C shows corridors with a 0A4L wall type (note this is typical of all plan pages). Partition type OA indicates gypsum board to 4" above ceiling. The "A" designation of Sheet AE9.2.2 indicates gypsum board for one side to go to structure. Please change specifications, or amend all drawings. Please reference all Fire, Smoke, Sound, and FHP.

A: See additional Component "L"

49. Q: Please verify all studs for use on this project are to be 16 gauge per spec 092216.

A: 092216.2.2.A.1 requires studs to be 0.0566 inch thick which is equivalent to 16 gage.

50. Q: Please verify that suspended headers and soffits should be welded per AE9.2.4.

A: Follow details on AE 9.2.4

51. Q: In order to provide the VA with a complete and competitive bid, we are requesting a 3 week bid extension (to be due: November 19th). This will allow our subcontractors enough time to thoroughly review all specs and drawings.

A: Proposals will be due on Friday, November 13, 2015 at 1:00 pm (PST)

52. Q: Please consider extending the Requests for Information due date to October 22nd?

    A: No. RFI due date remains the same, October 8, 2015.

53. Q: Page 20 of 78: Section D. Small Business Participation states the goal is 17.5%. In Amendment #1, VA Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization Presentation shown at the Pre-Bid meeting states 17.7%. Please clarify which is correct?

    A: 17.7%

54. Q: Can you provide a TOC for Volume II- Cost Proposal in order for the submitted material be organized sequentially under tabs? For example: 1) where do we include reps and certs (behind the amendment in Volume II or in its own tab? 2) Where do we include our bid bond (in a tab or behind reps and certs)?

    A: It does not matter what order, provided each item is labelled/tabbed.

55. Q: Page 18 of 78 B. Past Performance: The Offeror or references will submit completed questionnaires to the Contracting Officer by the due date and time for receipt of proposals. In addition to copies that are emailed directly to the VA contracting officer, may we also include a copy of completed "PAST PERFORMANCE QUESTIONNAIRE FORM" in our proposal response to ensure that they are received and evaluated?

    A: No.

56. Q: Page 20 of 78: 3) Past Subcontracting Goals Performance, please clarify if we are only allowed to cite federal projects which are included under Tab A-1 Corporate Project Experience? Can the Offeror provide at least one (1) no more than three (3) past historical examples not under Tab A-1 Corporate Project Experience in which the Offeror meet their small business subcontracting goals in past five years?

    A: Yes and Yes

57. Q: Page 15 of 78 E. Standard Form SF 1442: The offeror shall submit an electronic copy of the technical proposal on one (1) CD. However, Page 16 of 78: Offerors shall include one copy of everything being submitted in paper to be also submitted on a CD. Please clarify that electronic versions of Volume I (Technical Response) and Volume II (Cost) are to be submitted on separate CDs; and labeled as such?

    A: No, one (1) CD

58. Q: We viewed the laboratory casework "QL" drawings and notice much of the laboratory casework (sheets QLO.1.1-QL04.6) is to be VA furnished and Contractor installed. Has the VA already purchased the laboratory casework? If yes, which manufacturer?

    A: There is no particular manufacturer selected for this equipment. Base bid shows Contractor provide and install; therefore, please contact the General Contractor to submit a bid.

59. Q: I saw in a pre-bid presentation that Buy American per FAR 15 is a requirement for the Construction Materials used on this project. Does this include laboratory equipment such as biological safety cabinets?

    A: Yes

60. Q: Specification Reference: 118119-2.2 D.2-3 – Clean Bedding Vacuum System – Bag Unloading System

    The specified bag unloading system requires two components that create the real potential for operator injury during use both independently and in combination. Through the requirement of a bag lift, there is the potential for the operator to be injured by a falling bag during the loading process (whether due to damaged/defective straps, improper loading, etc). Additionally, the connection of the hanging bag to the funnel requires the operator to crawl under the suspended product and reach between it and the stationary funnel, creating an uncontrolled pinch-point. Unlike most lifting systems that require the operator to control it from a safe distance, the specific nature of the tasks requiring operator intervention in this instance prevents an intrinsically safe system with the specified components.

    In contrast, we would request to propose an alternate unloading system that eliminates the need for any lifting of bags and all potential operator pinch points. Through the utilization of a top bag unloading system, the number of moving components, controls schemes and requirement for operator intervention are significantly reduced, virtually eliminating any potential for injury. The bag unloader utilizes an indirect system to allow for coning of the bag and complete discharge without lifting from the pallet or operator intervention.
    With operator safety the most important concern in the design and execution of the bulk bag unloading equipment, will the above described top bag unloader be acceptable as an alternate product?

    1: Note: Product specifications specific to this application have been included as an attachment for reference and use.

    Proposed Alternate Bulk Bag Unloader Specification

1. Operation: Bulk bedding bags are placed under the carriage assembly with standard pallet jack. The bulk bag is connected to the unloader without lifting off the ground and the upper bag feed snout is secured in place with a dust tight inflation collar. The suction head lowers through the sealed collar and begins to draw material out of the bag and into the transfer piping system. As material is drawn out of the bag, the bag is automatically actuated to allow for remove of all bedding from the bag without direct operator interaction. When the bag is emptied, the control system will alert the operator to replenish the supply. If multiple unloading stations are present in the system configuration, the controller shall automatically switch to the next loaded and available unloading station, providing uninterrupted operation.
2. Location: Bulk bag unloading station shall be located within the bedding storage space as identified by the project plans. Conveyance distance in equivalent linear feet not to exceed 300 feet
3. Dimensions:
Maximum External Size: 18” W x 56" L x 102" H
Maximum Footprint: 16” W x 16” L
4. Utility Requirements:
Electrical: 120 VAC, 1-Phase, 60 Hz, 5 Amp
Compressed Air: 1/2” NPT; 80 PSIG, 8-10 CFM Intermittent Use
Communications: Plenum Rated CAT 5e or CAT 6
5. Construction:
a. Unloader frame and bag support components shall be stainless steel and aluminum construction with industrial powder coated finish.
b. All components that come in direct contact with bedding material shall be type 304 stainless steel.
c. Pneumatic seal to prevent off-dusting of bulk materials during system filling.
d. Unloader shall be capable of removing a minimum of 95% of the bag contents without any required operator intervention.
e. Unloader shall automatically break any material bridges or clumps within the bulk bag without any required operator intervention. Manufacturer is required to provide any and all manipulation apparatus required to accomplish this requirement.
f. Provide emergency STOP button to protect operators from moving parts.
g. Feed bin unloading stations, storage silos or any form of hoist and trolley system will not be accepted.
h. Seismic tie-downs must be provided with this equipment.
i. Equipment is to be manufactured within the United States of North America.

Equivalent to items as described in 118119-2.2 D.2 and 118119-2.2 D.3

A: Response will be provided in Amendment #3

61. Q: Specification Reference: 118119-2.2 D.6.b.3 – Clean Bedding Vacuum System – Mobile Control Interface.

The specified vacuum control system includes the integration of a mobile device based application which may allow access to the system controls. With any

equipment that contains a level of automated operation and moving components, It is not advisable or prudent to provide the capabilities for remote operation or adjustment of the equipment. This creates an opportunity for significant operator injury.

With operator safety the most important concern in the design and execution of an automated system, along with the consideration of risk and liability the facility takes on through the inclusion of such a feature, will the above described control feature be required?

A: Response will be provided in Amendment #3

62. Q: Specification Reference: 118119-2.1 C.7.b.3 Waste Vacuum System – Mobile Control Interface: The specified vacuum control system includes the integration of a mobile device based application which may allow access to the system controls. With any equipment that contains a level of automated operation and moving components, it is not advisable or prudent to provide the capabilities for remote operation or adjustment of the equipment. This creates an opportunity for significant operator injury.

    With operator safety the most important concern in the design and execution of an automated system, along with the consideration of risk and liability the facility takes on through the inclusion of such a feature, will the above described control feature be required?

    A: Response will be provided in Amendment #3

63. Q: SPECIFICATION REFERNCE: 118119 Acceptance -
    PVS Process Equipment is an established manufacturer of Bedding Handling Systems as described in specification section 118119 of Solicitation VA101-15-R-0123. PVS Process Equipment would like to be listed as an interested vendor and acceptable alternate to the currently sole source specified equipment of section 118119. PVS Process Equipment is capable and has history of meeting all requirements of the indicated specifications with mature installation references available.

    As there was no announcement of Sources Sought for this equipment/system prior to this solicitation containing the Sole Source designation, PVS Process Equipment is requesting formal consideration as an interested and capable vendor.

    Please see the specific capabilities for consideration of PVS Process Equipment as an accepted vendor for competitive bidding on the attached page two of this request.

It should be noted that PVS Process Equipment does qualify and count towards any/all small business participation requirements for this project. PVS Process Equipment is an acknowledged small business.

As an established manufacturer of dedicated bedding handling systems for the Life Science and Research Industries, with sufficient capabilities to meet all project requirements as outlined in specification 118119, PVS Process Equipment respectfully requests consideration as an interested vendor for this equipment.

If PVS Process Equipment is granted the opportunity to submit competitive pricing for contact information be listed as follows, as has been done for the currently listed vendor.

- Mature, field-proven equipment/systems capable of handling a wide variety of materials.
- Redundant safety mechanisms utilizing both program and mechanical methods.
- In-house programming capabilities allowing for cross-platform communication with Siemens controls.
- Modularity of components allows for integration of our systems with all washer manufacturers, including direct field experience with the listed sole source washer provider.
- Ability to reduce safety concerns of currently specified system through elimination of overhead lifting system.
- Capabilities to meet all required performance criteria as outlined in 118119-1.4.
- Capabilities to meet all required quality control criteria as outlined in 118119-1.5.
- Capabilities to meet all required submittal criteria as outlined in 118119-1.6.
- Capabilities to meet all required publications and standards as outlined in 118119-1.7 and 118119-1.8.
- Capabilities to meet all required warranty and guarantee period services criteria as outlined in 118119-1.9 and 118119-1.10.
- Capabilities to meet all required product criteria as outlined in 118119-2.1 B-F.
    - No exceptions to space constraints or utility requirements are necessary for the consideration of the PVS equipment to be proposed.
- Capabilities to meet all required product criteria as outlined in 118119-2.2 B-D.
    - No exceptions to space constraints or utility requirements are necessary for the consideration of the PVS equipment to be proposed.
- Capabilities to meet all required product criteria as outlined in 118119-2.3 B-F.
    - No exceptions to space constraints or utility requirements are necessary for the consideration of the PVS equipment to be proposed.
    - Due to the design and construction standards for the PVS product, there is an opportunity to eliminate the 3ph power requirement at this location, further reducing the project cost.
- Capabilities to meet all required product criteria as outlined in 118119-2.4 B-F.

  - No exceptions to space constraints or utility requirements are necessary for the consideration of the PVS equipment to be proposed.
- Capabilities to meet all required product criteria as outlined in 118119-2.5 B-D.
  - No exceptions to space constraints or utility requirements are necessary for the consideration of the PVS equipment to be proposed.
- Capabilities to meet all required performance criteria as outlined in 118119-3.

Additional specific information relating to equipment design, construction and reference contact.

A: Response will be provided in Amendment #3

64. Q: SPECIFICATION REFERNCE: 118119 Bedding Type and Container Size - The vacuum system specification outlines a lifting system for "bulk bag", but does not provide a material type or bag size. In order to properly design a system to handle bulk materials from large bags, both the material and bag type/size must be known

Please provide the bedding type to be utilized in this system for design consideration. Please provide the selected bag size utilized for the design of this system.

A: Response will be provided in Amendment #3

65. Q: SPECIFICATION REFERNCE: 118119-2.1 C.1 – Waste Vacuum – Dump Station Metering Device
The specified dump station includes a large number of powered moving parts. With operator safety of the highest priority and long-term reliability following closely, we would like to offer an acceptable alternate product. Through the replacement of both the upper belt and multi-bade mechanical shredder with a static top grate and low speed, variable screw feeder, material metering can be appropriately accomplished without exposing the operator to any moving parts during operation. Additionally, through the elimination of the shredder, the opportunity for injury to the maintenance staff will be completely eliminated.

With increased operator safety in mind, will the above described alternate system be accepted as equal to the specification?

A: Response will be provided in Amendment #3

66. Q: SPECIFICATION REFERNCE: 118119-2.1 C.5 – Vacuum Pump Type
The specified vacuum pump type currently specified, although functional, is not

well suited to the waste conveying application. Due to the damp and heavy nature of the waste material being conveyed, a pump capable of providing near constant vacuum as available line air decreases (i.e. when the line loads with waste material) is highly recommended. A positive displacement blower is generally recommended in this application by the pneumatic conveying manufacturer to ensure maintenance of vacuum pressure under increasing line loading. Additionally, the positive displacement blower providing greater suction power, further reducing potentials for clogging within the network.

With increased system performance and overall efficiency in mind, will the above described alternate positive displacement blower be accepted as equal to the specification?

A: Response will be provided in Amendment #3

67. Q: Specification 01000.P references the VA BIM Guide. Under section 3.2a of the VA BIM Guide, the Construction BIM Management Plan must reference the reuse of the Design BIM. Will the Design BIM Management Plan submission produced by the design team under section 3.1 of the VA BIM Guide be provided?

    A: No. There is no “Design BIM Management Plan” submitted by the design team.

68. Q: Specification 01000.P.6 requires computer software for BIM uses that include Space and Medical Equipment Validation, Energy Analysis, and Functional Analysis. The VA BIM Guide describes these specific BIM uses in section 7 of the VA BIM Guide as Design requirements. Please confirm that these specific Design BIM uses have been performed by the Design team and all software required for those Design BIM uses will be provided by the Design team.

    A: This will not be provided.

Q: Specification 01000.P.8 requires COBIE formatted data in reference to the VA BIM Guide 7.8. Section 7.8 of the VA BIM Guide indicates that the Design team was required to submit COBIE formatted data with the CD deliverables that would include the Type and Component worksheets. Please provide these COBIE data deliverables as they directly impact what the contractor is able to provide under this specification.

A: Response will be provided in Amendment #3

69. Q: The preliminary rubber traffic pad egress routes shown on sheets AE2.1.2A through AE2.1.2B route throughout the utility area with a maximum of 7'-2" of vertical space available without considering the structural framing members. In many areas, the insulated ductwork alone will limit the vertical space available to less than 4'-0" or less. Please define the acceptable egress and access clearances that should be used in order for the contractor to avoid reworking the installation of the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire protection systems to accommodate the in-the-field coordination as indicated on the drawings.

    A: See key note 2.154. There are no egress routes required at Level U since this is not occupied.

70. Q: On sheet MH2.1.3D, a 52"x26" duct is routed at an angle through a series of walls and through the Open Lab (1-301) which indicates a 10'-0" ceiling height. Because the large 52x26 duct must cross the 18x14 supply air duct in the lab area, once insulation and hangers are added, there will not be enough space to install light fixtures into a 10'-0" ceiling height in multiple locations in this room. Please indicate where ceiling height breaks can be located to accommodate above-ceiling systems that do not fit above the designed ceiling heights.

    A: 18x14 supply duct runs in beam pocket above 52x26 exhaust duct and drops on side of exhaust duct. Contractor to provide coordinated shop drawings in accordance with bid documents. .No ceiling height changes are allowed.

71. Q: Specifications 210511, 220511, 230511 and 260511 each include a section defining the requirements for Conveniently or Readily Accessible Equipment as capable of being reached without the use of ladders, or without climbing or crawling under or over obstacles such as motors, fans, pumps, belt guards, transformers, high voltage lines, piping, and ductwork. The same specification allows the Government to determine if equipment is inaccessible and require it to be relocated at no cost to the Government. Please confirm that all equipment represented in the contract documents meet this definition of Conveniently or Readily Accessible as several pieces of equipment are located above ceilings or on the limited-height interstitial level, where ladders will be required or climbing, crouching, or crawling around obstructions will be necessary to access the equipment as shown on section cut 54 on MH3.1.1 where approximately 3'-0" of vertical space is available under the steel framing members.

    A: Per 260511-1.10-C-2, 2: "Readily accessible” is defined as being capable of

being reached quickly for operation, maintenance, or inspections without the use of ladders, or without climbing or crawling under or over obstacles such as, but not limited to, motors, pumps, belt guards, transformers, piping, ductwork, conduit and raceways."

Service clearances must be maintained on service access side of equipment as called out in bid documents. Contractor to provide coordinated shop drawings in accordance with bid documents.

72. Q: Please verify that each subcontractor should include the cost of offsite parking in their proposal.

    A: This is up to the Contractor.

73. Q: There is no color called out for the composite metal panels on the finish schedule. Please advise.

    A: 3-coat, 70% PVDP. Color: PPG/Duranar, Sunstorm Sunlight Silver

74. Q: Specification 088000 calls out for all doors to have G9, laminated glass at lites but note 17 on AE9.3.3 calls out for IG-1 at all interior glazed doors. Please clarify.

    A: Will revise AE9.3.3 to show the correct glazing type. G9 is not used. Specs will be corrected.

75. Q: Door openings G1, and G2 do not have material, finish or type called out. Please clarify.

    A: See detail 22/AE1.1.11 for G1. See detail 24/AE1.1.12 for G2

76. Q: Note 17 on AE 9.3.1 and AE 9.3.2 call out for “exterior door part of point supported glazing system”, but is not called out anywhere on the door schedule. Please confirm this is not used.

    A: Note 17 not used.

77. Q: Door openings AV111F and AV132 do not have a door type, but call out for wood/glazed doors. Please clarify what door types these are.

A: AV111F and AV132 are GL3 Type

78. Q: The roof plans do not denote different types of roofing. Please clarify what roofing types are utilized and the locations they are applied.

    A: All roofing systems are as described on section 075216.13 for parapet see section 075423

79. Q: Interior glazing types on AE9.7.1 do not show a glazing type for detail 26 and 32. Please confirm these are IG-1.

    A: Glazing is IG-1.

80. Q: IG-13T is called out in the specifications, but is not shown anywhere in the door schedule. Please confirm that IG-13T is not used.

    A: See Note 5 on Door Schedule.

81. Q: No glazing type is called out on AE9.3.3 for door types F2, GL1, GL2, GL3, GL4, and. Please confirm that door types F2, GL1, GL2, GL3, GL4, and F8 contain glazing type IG-1.

    A: Confirmed. Door Type F2 is not used.

82. Q: Please verify that SBEDS may be used for the blast design for this project.

    A: SBEDS may be used for blast design for this project.

83. Q: Please clarify wall types on AE4.1.1 to confirm what is shown on the exterior plan, elevations and wall sections drawings.

    A: See note 4 on AE4.1.1

84. Q: Drawing AE4.1.2 , keynote 4.53 calls for window wall system, but is not denoted anywhere on the drawing. Please clarify.

    A: There is no note 4.53. Disregard note 4.63.

85. Q: Specification section 089000 does not call out a finish for interior door louvers. Please clarify.

    A: No door louvers part of this project.

86. Q: Please provide blast narrative for this project.

    A: Due to security requirements, only the Contractor receiving award of the project will receive the narrative.

87. Q: Please confirm glass handrail at stairs do not to extend any higher than shown to prevent someone from falling over rail as drawn.

    A: Confirmed.

88. Q: Soil report does not address HVOCs, Semi Volatile Organics, Oil and Grease, various metals, Hexavalent Chromium, etc. Will a more complete report be provided?

    A: No additional reports are available at this time. Follow CLIN 003 regarding hazardous material removal.

89. Q: Please verify that any soil test results that vary from those published in RFP will be handled as a change order to the contract and unit pricing.

    A: Confirmed.

90. Q: Are nail plates protecting piping and conduit required on metal stud walls?

    A: No nail plates are required, however, contractor to coordinate pipe & conduit location with all wall mounted equipment to avoid pipe/conduit damage.

91. Q: Please verify that all provisions for MEP are in the project and coordinated to function with the equipment in the project.

    A: MECHANICAL RESPONSE: Contractor to provide coordinated shop drawings in accordance with bid documents. As of today, all lab equipment has been coordinated with MEP.

92. Q: SPECIFICATION REFERENCE: 23 05 41.1.2 - Please provide clarification on the requirements for Seismic Bracing of Mechanical Pipe, Duct and Plumbing Pipe on this project. There are inconsistencies between the specification, VA Documents and standard Code (CBC 2013).

    Structural Sheet S0.1.1 lists an Occupancy Category of IV. No Ip (Seismic Importance Factor) is listed however with this Occupancy we are assuming 1.5.

    Spec Section 23 05 41 generally lists the seismic requirements but refers you to Spec Section 13 05 41 Special Construction where you are told to go to VA Seismic Design Requirements document H-18-8 Seismic Brace Exemptions are clearly defined within this document. (Specific Page attached). IBC 2009 is also referenced.

    This section (H-18-8) also refers you to IBC 2012 seismic criteria and ASCE 7-10 (13.6.8.3 specifically) which does not align with document H-18-8. We are attaching the specific pages. Complete documents can be provided upon request, but all are part of the bid package or available on line.

    A: CBC 2013 is not the standard code for this project. Specification Section 13 05 41 Part 1.6 specifies that I=1.5. Seismic restraint design criteria is per the latest edition of the IBC and ASCE 7-10. See Addendum No. 1 for clarifications.

    Revised specification section 230541 to delete reference to VA H-18-8 and updated IBC code version, see Addendum No. 1 for clarifications.

93. Q: SPECIFICATION REFERENCE: 12 31 00 Item 2.3.F.6 & 7 - THE SPECIFICATION CALLS FOR A REAR RETAINING LIP AND A FRONT ST RETAINING ROD. THIS IS TYPICAL FOR OPEN WALL SHELVING, AND NOT SHELVES WITHIN CASEWORK. PLEASE CONFIRM THESE REQUIREMENTS ARE FOR OPEN SHELVES, AND NOT SHELVES WITHIN CABINETS.

    A: For open shelving only.

94. Q: SPECIFICATION REFERENCE: 12 31 00 Item 2.4 - SPECIFICATION CALLS FOR LABEL HOLDERS OF SHELVES, DOORS & DRAWERS. PLEASE CONFIRM THESE ARE REQUIRED ONLY WHERE SHOWN.

    A: These are required per the specification from the VA.

95. Q: SPECIFICATION REFERENCE: 12 31 00 - SPECIFICATION REQUIRES "ONE COMPLETE CASEWORK ASSEMBLY" AS A SUBMITTAL SAMPLE. THE EXTENT OF WHAT CONSTITUTES AN ASSEMBLY IS NOT DEFINED WITHIN THE PLANS OR SPECIFICATIONS. PLEASE CLARIFY WHAT IS TO BE FURNISHED TO MEET THIS REQUIREMENT.

    A: One of each type of cabinet that is specified in the project.

96. Q: SPECIFICATION REFERENCE: 12 31 00 - SPECIFICATION FOR MANUFACTURED METAL CASEWORK DOES NOT CLARIFY THE CABINET STYLE. PLEASE CLARIFY IF THE CABINET DOOR & DRAWER FRONTS ARE FLUSH OVERLAY OR INSET STEEL STYLE.

    A: Inset steel.

97. Q. SPECIFICATION REFERENCE: 12 31 03 ITEM 2.5.A.2 - SPECIFICATION CALLS FOR STEEL CABINET BODIES WITH INSET WOOD DOOR & DRAWER FRONTS. THERE IS NO SPECIFICATION GIVEN FOR THE WOOD PORTION OF THESE CABINETS.

    PLEASE CONFIRM THESE INSET DOORS AND DRAWER FRONTS ARE TO MATCH THE MATERIAL AND FINISH OF THE WOOD CASEWORK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 123200.

    A: Yes, see specification 12 32 00 for wood requirements.

99. Q: SHEET AND DETAIL REFERENCE: QL0.3.2 & QL0.4.2 - SHEETS QL0.3.2 AND QL0.4.2 DEFINE THE SCOPE OF DEDUCTIVE ALTERNATE CLIN 002 FOR THE OPEN LABS ON THE FIRST AND SECOND LEVELS. ON EACH SHEET THERE ARE TWO CIRCLED ISLANDS CONSISTING OF MOBILES BENCHES. THESE SPECIFIC ISLANDS ARE CLEARLY PART OF THE ALTERNATE. HOWEVER, THE REST OF THE ISLANDS ARE NOT CIRCLED, BUT THEY ARE SHOWN BOLD INSTEAD OF FADED. PLEASE CONFIRM THAT ALL MOBILE BENCHES SHOWN ON THESE SHEETS ARE TO BE INCLUDED IN DEDUCTIVE ALTERNATE CLIN 002.

    A: The circled (bubbled) items indicate the detail that is shown (as a typical), the quantities shown in the tables are for ALL the casework that is to be included in the CLIN 002. In plan, each section of casework is labeled (CASEWORK 1-B or CASEWORK 1-C) identifying the casework represented in the bubble.

    All <u>BOLD</u> casework shown within the CLIN drawings should be considered part of CLIN 002.

100. Q: SHEET AND DETAIL REFERENCE: QL0.0.1 - GENERAL NOTE 13 ON SHEET QL0.0.1 REFERS TO A REMOVABLE TOP FOR ALL ADD-A-DRAWER UNITS. THE TOP MATERIAL FOR THE MOBILE BASE CABINETS IS NOT DEFINED IN THE PLANS OR SPECIFICATIONS. PLEASE CONFIRM THAT ALL MOBILE BASE CABINETS WILL REQUIRE AN EPOXY RESIN TOP.

A: Correct. All add-a-drawers are to have a removable epoxy top.

101. Q: SHEET AND DETAIL REFERENCE: QL0.0.1 - TABLES "TTHS" & "BTS" ARE SHOWN ON SHEET QL0.0.1 WITH STAINLESS STEEL TOPS. PLEASE CONFIRM THAT THE TABLE FRAMES BELOW ARE STILL PAINTED STEEL UNLESS SPECIFICALLY NOTED OTHERWISE.

A: Correct. All table frames and legs are to be painted steel unless otherwise notes.

102. Q: SHEET AND DETAIL REFERENCE: QL SHEETS - THERE ARE SEVERAL STAINLESS STEEL COUNTERTOPS IN THE LAB AREAS SIMILAR TO ROOM V-242. PLEASE CONFIRM THAT THE CABINETS BELOW WOULD STILL BE PAINTED STEEL UNLESS SPECIFICALLY NOTED OTHERWISE.

A: Correct. All metal casework will be painted steel.

103. Q: SHEET AND DETAIL REFERENCE: QL1.1.2 - THE EQUIPMENT SCHEDULE ON SHEET QL1.1.2 SHOWS AN ICE MACHINE IN ROOM V-303A AS PART OF CYLINDER CORRALS. PLEASE CLARIFY HOW THE ICE MACHINES ARE TO BE INCORPORATED INTO ALTERNATE CLIN 0003. (SEE ALSO ICE MACHINES IN ROOMS 1-309, 1-312, 2-309 & 2-315 ON SHEETS QL1.3.1 & QL1.4.1).

A: The ice Machines are part of the CLIN 003 as noted on the equipment schedules.

104. Q: Can you make available the drawings that were listed in the drawing index (AE6.1.5, MP2.1.1, & MP2.1.1A)?

A: Will provide drawings AE6.1.5, MP2.1.1, & MP2.1.1A as part of Addendum No. 1.

105. Q: REF Section 233625 2.3-B-11: Specification requires Heresite coating on Air Flow Control Valves for Fume Hoods. Is Heresite costing be required for BioSafety Cabinets Air Flow Control Valves?

A: Yes.

106. Q: REF Section 233625 1.2-3: Contract documents indicate Fume Hood and BioSafety Cabinets Air Flow Control applications are Constant Volume operation.

Please confirm as such, these applications will not require Sash Position sensors.

A: Confirmed. Sash position sensors are not required for the Constant volume applications.

107. Q. REF Section 233625 2.4-D & E: Contract documents indicate Fume Hoods are Constant Volume operation applications.

Please confirm as such, these applications will require standard speed actuation and not High Speed actuation.

A: Confirmed. High speed actuators are not required for the Constant Volume applications.

108. Q: REF Section 233625 2.3-B-2: Contract documents indicate Fume Hoods are Constant Volume operation applications.

Please confirm this sections contains contradictory information and that, as such, these applications will require standard speed actuation and not High Speed actuation.

A: Confirmed. High speed actuators are not required for the Constant Volume applications.

109. Q: REF Section 233625 2.3-B-12: Contract documents indicate Air Flow Control Valves require a 6-point factory calibration method. Siemens Air Flow Control Valves are factory calibrated based on a 110-point Characterization documenting compliance the specified +/- 5% flow accuracy.

Please confirm this documentation will satisfy contract document requirements.

A: Confirmed. 110 Pt Characterization is an acceptable testing means for compliance with contract documents.

110. Q: REF Section 233625 2.4-D & E: Contract documents indicate Constant Volume applications for Exhaust terminals, Fume Hood and BioSafety Cabinet applications with no specified “Fail” position for these devices in the event of a power failure. Standard “Fail” position for Constant Volume applications is “Fail in Place”

Please confirm this is the intent of these documents, design and application.

A: Confirmed. “Fail in place” is acceptable for the Constant Volume applications. Note that all HW valves serving animal holding areas need to fail closed as stated in the drawings.

111. Q: REF Section 233625 2.4-D & E: Contract documents indicate modulating valve and damper actuators for Terminal Units and Fan Coil applications. Standard actuation for these applications utilize 3-point floating actuation.

Please confirm this is the intent of these documents, design and application.

A: Confirmed. 3-point floating control for Terminal Unit/Fan Coil valve and damper actuators is acceptable.

112. Q: REF Section 230923 1.5-A: Contract documents indicate ECC Workstation information response times that contradict those inherent to ASHRAE BACNet protocols. EEC Workstation information response times will be dependent upon these protocols.

Please confirm this is the intent of these documents, design and application.

A: Confirmed. ECC alarm response time is a function of and dependent upon ASHRAE BACNet protocol and not the ECC and Network provider.

113. Q: REF Section 230923 2.4-C-18: Contract documents indicate monitoring of Gas Meter(s) and Electrical Power Meter(s) however provide no indication of actual device locations and / or quantities. VA Standards require (1) single Gas Meter and (1) single Electrical Power Monitoring points be connected to the ECC Workstation for monitoring information. In addition, Building Power Monitorig is provided under another sections of the contract documents.

Please confirm the monitoring of (1) single Gas Meter and (1) single Electrical Power Monitoring connected to the ECC Workstation is the intent of these documents, design and application.

A: (1) Main Gas meter monitoring point and (2) Main Electrical meter monitoring points – one from the normal switchgear and another from the emergency switchgear by building controls are acceptable. Other utility monitoring is also required to be connected to the building control system; these utilities include but are not limited to domestic water, steam, and steam condensate.

Gas meter is shown on Sheets CS1.5.1 and PP2.2.2A.

114. Q: REF Section 230923 2.11-A-5: Contract documents indicate valve and damper actuators for Terminal Units and Fan Coil applications. Standard actuation for these applications utilize 3-point floating actuation.

Please confirm this is the intent of these documents, design and application.

A: Confirmed. 3-point floating control for Terminal Unit / Fan Coil valve and damper actuators is acceptable.

115. Q: REF Section 230923 2.11-A-5: Contract documents indicate control cables of 18 AWG. Siemens (manufacture) recommendations a 20AWG cable for optimum performance of Siemens products. This is also the VAPAHCS current standard

Please confirm 20 AWG control cable for installation meets the intent of these documents, design and application.

A: Confirmed. #20 AWG cable is acceptable. Install per manufacturers recommended standards.

116. Q: REF Section 230923-2.14-A: Contract documents do not indicate a “Fail”” position for Terminal Unit and Fan Coil applications valve actuators. Standard application for these devices is “Fail” in place.

Please confirm this is the intent of these documents, design and application.

A: Confirmed. "Fail in place" is acceptable for Terminal Unit / Fan Coil valve actuators. Note that all HW valves serving animal holding areas need to fail closed as stated in the drawings.

117. Q: REF Section 230923-1.1-G-2: Contract documents indicate replacement of all existing controllers with BACNet devices. It is assumed this is new building with no existing devices to be replaced.

Please confirm this is the intent of these documents, design and application.

A: Confirmed. Project does not contain replacement of existing controllers.

118. Q: The following drawing sheets were not included with the project documents in Volume 4B of the drawings: MP2.1.1 and MP2.1.1.A. Please provide these missing sheets.

A: See response to question #104.

119. Q: SPECIFICATION REFERENCE: 12 31 03
SPECIFICATION REQUIRES “ONE COMPLETE CASEWORK ASSEMBLY” AS A SUBMITTAL SAMPLE. THE EXTENT OF WHAT CONSTITUTES AN ASSEMBLY IS NOT DEFINED WITHIN THE PLANS OR SPECIFICATIONS. PLEASE CLARIFY WHAT IS TO BE FURNISHED TO MEET THIS REQUIREMENT.

A: See response to question #96.